

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listing of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of lubricating the interface between a container and a moving conveyor surface, in the substantial absence of foamed lubricant and lubricant runoff, the method comprising:
 - (a) forming a continuous thin film of an emulsion lubricant composition comprising an oil phase and an aqueous phase, the oil phase comprising silicone, a liquid composition on a container contact surface of a conveyor; and
 - (b) moving a container on the conveyor surface in order to transport the container from a first location to a second location.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 [[2]] wherein the emulsion contains about 5 to 50 wt% of the aqueous phase.
4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the lubricant comprises a suspension of a particulate ~~in a liquid medium~~.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the container comprises an aluminum can or a thermoplastic bottle.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the liquid lubricant is applied to the surface of the conveyor in an amount of about 2×10^{-4} to 0.05 grams of lubricant per each square inch of surface.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the thickness of the continuous thin film of lubricant comprises a minimum thickness of an amount sufficient to provide minimum lubricating properties up to about 5 millimeters.

8. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the thermoplastic bottle comprises a polyethylene terephthalate bottle having a pentaloid base and the area of contact of the lubricant with the bottle is limited to the tips of the pentaloid structure.
9. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the method is free of any substantial stress placed on the container for the purpose of changing the shape of the container.
10. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein the emulsion is a composition stable to phase separation.
11. (Original) The method of claim 2 wherein the emulsion is unstable to phase separation after application of the lubricant to the conveyor surface.
12. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the coefficient of friction between the container and the conveyor surface is about 0.005 to 0.14.
13. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the coefficient of friction between the container and the conveyor surface is about 0.01 to 0.14.
14. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the coefficient of friction between the container and conveyor surface is about 0.03 to 0.14.
15. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the lubricant is applied to the conveyor surface using a brush applicator.
16. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the lubricant is applied to the conveyor surface using a spray applicator.
17. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the container is filled with carbonated beverage and the interior of the container is maintained under substantial pressure.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the continuous thin film of the lubricant is placed on the surface of the moving conveyor forming a lubricated area and leaving an unlubricated margin on the conveyor, and wherein an edge of the conveyor comprises the unlubricated margin-edge.

19. (Original) The method of claim 18 wherein the width of the lubricated area on the conveyor is about 3 to 150 inches.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 19 wherein the width of the unlubricated margins ~~margin on the conveyor is comprise~~ greater than about 0.5 inches.

21-73. (Cancelled)

74. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the silicone comprises silicone surfactant.

Support for Amendment

Claim 1 is amended to include the features of claim 2 and to characterize the presence of silicone in the oil phase. Support for this amendment can be found in the specification at, for example, page 7, lines 4-7.

New claim 74 is introduced characterizing the silicone as comprising silicone surfactant. This amendment is supported by the specification at, for example, page 7, lines 4-7.

Claim 2 is cancelled by this amendment.

In view of the cancellation of claim 2, claim 3 is amended to depend on claim 1.

Claim 4 is amended to remove the phrase "in a liquid medium" on the grounds that this phrase is not necessary.

Claims 18 and 19 are amended to more clearly characterize what is meant by these claims and provide antecedent basis.

No new matter is introduced by this amendment, and entry thereof is requested. Upon entry, claims 1, 3-20, and 74 are active in this application.